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Birmingham Eccentric

16 PAGES, PART 1

OAKLAND COUNTY'S GREATEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

"For a Bigger and Better Birmingham"

FORTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 42 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1927 $1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

Birmingham Awaits Final Road Verdict

150 Foot Project Not Considered By State; Both Factions Present Data To State Administrative Board

Birmingham today is again awaiting the final decision of the state administrative board as to the width of the part of the Woodward avenue right-of-way to pass through the village.

According to an announcement made by Gov. Fred W. Green at a meeting Monday in Lansing between citizens from Birmingham, Detroit and other cities in Michigan, this village is assured of a 200 foot right of way. Whether Woodward avenue through here is to be 200 feet wide or 100 feet wide with a parallel highway also 100 feet wide to be made at some later date is being pondered today by members of the board. They have promised their decision next Monday.

Twenty citizens from Birmingham were among the 100 who crowded the executive chambers in Lansing to discuss the matter with the board and governor last Monday.

Facts Aired

Those who favored the 150 foot width and those who are in favor of the two 100 foot highways aired their facts and statistics to board members for more than two hours.

Figures supplied by David H. Ladd, village president pro tem, and those supplied by William A. Sessor Robert McClellan failed to correspond as to the total cost of installing a Woodward avenue wider than 100 feet.

Mr. Ladd's figures showed the cost of a 150 foot right of way on Woodward avenue, $946,900.

Mr. McClellan's estimates, based upon village assessment rolls, had the figure at $1,035,900. This merely includes taxable property on the east side of Woodward avenue which the state would have to obtain if the right of way. It does not include village owned property and the Presbyterian church which is tax exempt but which the state would have to buy. The Baldwin Public Library and the police station is also an important item in this class.

Favor Parallels

George R. Averill, publisher of The Eccentric, Mr. McClellan, A. D. B. Van Zandt, public relations council for the D. U. R., spoke in favor of the two parallel roadways. Mr. Ladd and Lawrence Colgrove were the only Birmingham residents to voice their opinions for the wider Woodward proposal to the exclusion of the second roadway. Many men from other parts of the state, however, approved the plan.

That the 200 foot highway width for Woodward avenue would destroy that thoroughfare's business and tend to sectionalize Birmingham was one of the points stressed by those favoring the governor's plan for the two roadways.

Both sides, despite their difference of opinion as to the better plan for the village, agreed that they would abide by the decision of the board and work to its accomplishment once the decision was made.

Would Kill Theater

"A 200 foot highway will kill the theater project," were the

(Continued on Page 2)

MINISTER FLAYS KILLING BY STATE

Capital Punishment Far Cry From Law Enforcement, Says Atkins

"The present furore that is being created by some newspapers and individuals in Michigan to secure the enactment of a capital punishment law is not a solution at all for our present crime wave," said the Rev. R. M. Atkins, pastor of the First Methodist Church, today.

"Michigan needs better law enforcement. If a sentence of life imprisonment meant life imprisonment then there would be fewer murders. If the citizens of Michigan were more respectful of laws which do not suit their personal tastes it would help to stop the present crime wave considerably.

"The killing of a few men by capital punishment at the hands of the state is a sort of disgusting blood sacrifice to atone for the all too prevalent violation of law that are so rampant in Michigan.

"People of Michigan will not deter bandits by the electric chair so much as they will by demanding the enforcement of our present laws and by themselves keeping all of our laws.

"Any citizen who wilfully breaks any law has no moral right to demand sterner laws for the murderers. The bandits and murderers are merely 'the cream' of the lawless citizens of Michigan."

Expert floral designing. Flowers for any occasion. H. F. Doying, Florist, 418 Merrill St. Phone 569. adv.41

PLANS COMPLETED FOR ANNUAL EVENT

Vaudeville Show To Take Place Of Father, Son Banquet

Final plans for the father and son vaudeville next Thursday night at the Baldwin High School, to take place this year of the annual father and son banquet under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., have been completed and those to take part in the event are looking forward today to one of the biggest successes in the history of this institution.

Members of both the Rotary club and the Exchange club will hold father and son banquets on their meeting days next week.

Boyd Walker, president of the Association of Boys Work Secretaries of Michigan, will be the principal speaker at the affair Thursday. His subject has not yet been decided upon.

Group singing will be led by Carey Foster, chairman of the Detroit Father and Son committee for song leaders and song sheets, Charles S. Kinnison, chairman of the Father and Son committee announces.

One of the unusual features of the vaudeville show will be the musical saw played by Knutson, one of the best known trick musicians in the country.

An elaborate electrical drill will be staged by nine men from the physical department of the Detroit Y. M. C. A. under the leadership of P. J. Lee. Music will be provided by the Hudson Male Quartette, and Jeff Carr, an 18-year-old boy, will give one of his famous illustrated chalk talks.

A Charleston dancing contest will be put on by two colored boys from the Ford Republic, Arthur Smith and Lester Turner, and

(Continued on Page 2)

CHATFIELD SERVICES PLANNED FOR TODAY

Old Resident Dies Here Following Stroke; Ill Four Weeks.

Funeral services for Miss Carrie Chatfield were to be held at 2 p. m. today in the home of her niece, Mrs. Scott A. Hersey, 557 west Maple avenue. Miss Chatfield who was 67 years old died Tuesday morning at the Hersey residence after an illness of four weeks. A stroke is said to have caused death.

Burial was to be in Greenwood cemetery following the reading of the funeral services by the Rev. R. M. Atkins, pastor of the First Methodist Church.

Miss Chatfield was born in Troy Township but came to Birmingham when a child and has lived here since. She was well known among long time residents of the village.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Emma Robinson of Birmingham; a nephew, Glenn Robinson of Highland Park; and another niece, Mrs. A. T. Lowes of this village.

Miss Chatfield had lived with the Herseys for the past five years.

DELEGATES REPORT EXCHANGE MEETING

Grand Rapids Affair Termed Success By Villagers Who Attend.

Business and pleasure went together at the annual state convention of the Exchange clubs held Sunday and Monday at Grand Rapids, according to reports of the meetings made at the Birmingham's club luncheon Tuesday poon by representatives who attended.

Dr. Fred L. Tucker, president of the Birmingham club, and Ray A. Palmer spoke. Oscar P. Peterson was the third delegate to attend.

Delegates from Birmingham joined members of the clubs from Detroit and other communities in this part of the state in a private car in Detroit Sunday night. From that time until they returned Tuesday morning they were occupied

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WALKS INTO AUTO, MAN MEETS DEATH

First Fatality Of Year Occurs At Adams And Woodward

Birmingham's first traffic fatality of the year occurred at 6:15 a. m. Saturday when Arthur M. Monroe, 69 years old, 117 Willaster street, walked into a car driven by Leslie Marriott, 479 Marshall avenue, Ferndale, suffering a skull fracture which caused his death within a few minutes. The accident occurred at Adams and Woodward avenues.

Marriott was driving north on Woodward avenue when Monroe, not seeing the car, walked into the side of it, he said. Monroe had come from the east side of Woodward, over the car tracks.

The driver and his companion, Clayton Wales, 19151 Carmen avenue, Detroit, drove directly to the police station and reported the accident. They were not held.

Sergeant Clark Green, happening to be near the scene of the accident, brought the injured man to the police station, and Dr. J. P. McConlogue was called, but Monroe died almost immediately.

He was on his way to work, at the Western Lumber company where he was a millwright, police learned. He has lived in Birmingham only five months. His home is in Owosso, where funeral services

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COURT SETTLES SISTERS' DISPUTE

Mrs. Nellie Hutton Awarded $20,000 Home On Woodward Avenue

Mrs. Nellie Hutton was awarded her $20,000 home at 711 north Woodward avenue yesterday in a decision handed down by Circuit Judge Glenn C. Gillespie on a case brought by Mrs. W. C. Behn, who is occupying the house, against her sister, Mrs. Hutton. Mrs. Hutton, however, will pay her sister $1,376.86 for repairs and improvements on the house since Mrs. Behn has been occupying it. Mrs. Behn claimed that her sister had promised to give her the home.

Suit was brought by Mrs. Behn on an alleged oral agreement. Mrs. Hutton's husband, George Hutton, formerly a successful real estate dealer in Birmingham, upon his death left her approximately $177,000 after all liabilities had been paid. The property in dispute is on Woodward avenue. Hutton died Sept. 8, 1924, two years after his death his wife sent for her sister and according to Mrs. Behn made her a proposition that if she would move from Detroit to Birmingham and occupy the home that Mrs. Hutton would make her a present of it. Mrs. Behn finally consented to move to Birmingham. Mrs. Hutton left for a trip in the fall of 1924 and remained away from Birmingham for a long time.

Mrs. Behn lost her sister's address in the summer of 1925 and becoming apprehensive for her safety took steps to have Mrs. Hutton removed as executrix of her husband's estate. A petition for the appointment of a guardian on the ground that Mrs. Hutton was a spendthrift was filed at about the same time. Mrs. Hutton was located in Chicago at the time and was served with the papers.

Asks Return Of Home.

This action on the part of her sister so estranged Mrs. Hutton that she determined to repossess herself of the home in Birmingham to which she had never given Mrs. Behn a deed and which she denied she ever had any intention of giving away. Mrs. Behn then sued to prevent being ousted from the home and to compel her sister to deed her the valuable property in Birmingham.

"I am unable to believe defendant intended to make an absolute gift of the only place she had to call home," Judge Gillespie found.

Mrs. Behn claimed she and her husband had spent $10,483.05 for improvements to the property but the court eliminated much of this expense as improvement to the property.

"Plaintiff feels, and I believe with some justification that defendant is being imposed upon by certain persons who are thus seeking an easy living and who hope to acquire her property," reads a portion of the court's opinion.

"It is apparent she has spent huge sums in the past and unless she speedily changes her method of life will soon dissipate the es-

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the resignations of Charles J. Shain, President, and R. O. Wylie Bell, Commissioner, were filed with me on December 19, 1926, to take effect March 14, 1927. Nominations by petition will be in order for President to fill the unexpired term of President Shain, and for Commissioner to fill the unexpired term of Commissioner Bell and one Commissioner for a two-year term. All petitions must be filed on or before 5:00 o'clock P. M., Saturday, Feb. 19, 1927.

(Signed) HAZEL E. LAWLER, Village Clerk.

adv. 41-42

Poet Credits His Rapid Advance In World Of Letters To Village

"And Birmingham caused it all." Thus did Charles S. Kinnison, credit the village with his rapid rise in the world of newspaper poets since his first verse was published in The Eccentric five years ago.

"A combination of circumstances started me writing verse five years ago this month in Birmingham," said Mr. Kinnison, whose first book of poetry, "Round Home," was published this week. "This same combination could not have been brought about, it seems to me, in any other place."

And it was a fortunate combination of circumstances indeed, Mr. Kinnison believed. For, with the money he has made through writing verse in his spare moments during these last few years, he has been able to build one of the most comfortable homes in the village. It is on Hawthorne road and he, with his wife and two children, Gahm, 14, and Mary Jane, 8, are enjoying it today to the fullest.

Mr. Kinnison is poet for the Detroit Times and has come to be almost as well known as any man writing verse of the home for newspapers of this country.

But to return to the circumstances.

After graduating from Ohio State University with a degree in ceramic engineering, the making of pottery, Mr. Kinnison, like many who have obtained degrees in a certain branch of study, forsook it at once. He had the urge to write and because his style was fluent and he saw possibilities in the field, he entered advertising. Today he is director of advertising in one of Detroit's largest industries.

Mr. Kinnison's three brothers went to France when the United States entered the war and he first

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W. W. HENRY NAMED CANDIDATE FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Lawrence Hulbert Seen As Commission Timber In Petition

McCLELLAN REFUSES

Two new petitions have been filed during the past week for candidates for village offices. One is for W. W. Henry, Bloomfield court, for village president, and one for Lawrence Hulbert, 908 Brown street, for commissioner.

Mr. Henry has not yet said definitely whether he will qualify for the office of president. The petition was circulated by friends.

A resident of long standing in Birmingham, Mr. Henry has served on the township board of review. He was in business in Detroit prior to coming to Birmingham to live. At present he is retired.

Mr. Hulbert has consented to qualify for the position of village commissioner. He will, if elected, fill the vacancy created by the resignation of S. O. Wiley Bell.

Robert McClellan has refused to qualify for the office of village commissioner, for which a petition was circulated.

Petitions for Robert D. Baker for president and Hazel E. Lawler, for village clerk, are also on file today.

A petition is being circulated today for Virgil Lockrow for justice of the peace. Mr. Lockrow has held this position for some time. He is in the real estate business. This is the sixth township petition to be issued, the others being for Robert Y. Moore, for township supervisor; James V. Bayley, for township clerk; L. Virginia Wilson, for township treasurer; Jack Wilson, for highway commissioner; and James Campbell, for the board of review.

IMPROVEMENT GETS COMMISSION'S O. K.

Second Resolution Is Passed On Paving of George Street.

No objections having been heard to the proposal of paving George street between Woodward avenue and Pierce street the tax rolls are being prepared today.

According to plans the pavement will be 21 feet wide and will cost approximately $12,035. Of this day in which we live is found this amount 60 per cent will be borne by the property holders in the benefited district in Alice through the looking glass the remaining three quarters.

The pavement will either be of concrete or asphalt.

Hill Coasting Is Banned

Village Manager Harry S. Starr has instructions today to keep Willets Hill sanded after every snow storm following the injuries there last week of three high school students who were coasting.

Collision of sleds on the hill last week after a heavy snow storm sent three students to doctors for care. Miss Rosanna Manchester was confined to the Pontiac City Hospital with a fractured hip. The others injured are: Clare Gillespie and Donald McDonough. All are recovering.

The hill has long been a favorite coasting place for villagers.

Manager Starr received his instructions from the village commission following the receipt of a letter from Melvin C. Hart, principal of the Baldwin High School, which declared the practice of coasting on the hill dangerous.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL IN ROTARIAN TALK

Mt. Clemens Pedagogue Pleads For Christian Ideals In Address Here.

In one of the best inspirational addresses ever given before the Birmingham Rotary club, Phil Lovejoy, principal of the Mt. Clemens High School, and a member of the Mt. Clemens Rotary club, came to Birmingham Monday evening as the guest of Clarence Flint, chairman of the Rotary education committee.

Mr. Lovejoy's topic was "The Business of a Rotarian." He said that, although he used the name "Rotarian" at the time, it was equally applicable to the member of any other service club, including broadly all people who aspire to Christian principles.

"Probably the best picture of Alice found in the book in which Alice is recorded that Alice ran a race with the queen over there and, after running for considerable time, found that she was exactly where she started," stated Mr. Lovejoy.

"The queen in explanation stated that over there they had to run as hard as they could and as fast as they could to stay where they were. And much of our effort in this world is along that same line.

Cites Principle

"The interesting things of the world and the need of working hard to hold our own has caused the establishment of Rotary clubs. A Rotarian has been able to make certain social changes because of qualities that he possesses. The first of these is that he is a student of conditions in which he finds himself. He finds that dishonesty must give way to honesty and indolence to energy if the world is to progress. He cares more for the will of God than he does for the will of men and then

(Continued on Page 2)

64 Mothers Start 64 Straight Shootin' Policemen To School

By CLARICE TAPSON

Sixty-four mothers watched their little tots start their school careers Monday morning when Birmingham schools began after declaring the second semester in session.

Sixty-four children walked into the kindergarten rooms of the Pierce, Adams, Barnum and Hill Schools for the first time, commencing a career that they know will fit them for the positions they want someday to hold: rough riding cowboy, straight shooting policeman, child saving fireman, train driving engineer or country-managing president.

Some were scared, and wanted their mammas to stay with them. Some were brave, some were bashful and acted bold, but more were actively interested.

Who was the nice lady who called them George or Billy right away and told them where to put their hats and coats? Where did the pretty bunny pictures on the walls come from? Wouldn't it be fun if they could have all those cute little chairs at home in the playroom? Then they could have a party every day.

One little fellow casually broached the subject of such a loan to his teacher, and was diplomatically talked out of it. In fact, he was so pleased with her manner of denial that he decided after he became better acquainted with her to try again.

Another little chap wondered how learning to keep still and sit still was going to help him be prudent. He didn't know the half of it.

A tiny lady audibly whispered to her companion that she thought she should have brought Annabelle, her maraleejane. Annabelmaraleejane it developed, was her pet and favorite doll, who, although she has seen several years of mauling still has not been out in the wide world very much.

At least half a dozen more kindergartners are anticipated before the end of the month by Superintendent of Schools Clarence

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CITY-VILLAGE GROUP OPPOSES CHANGE

Public Meeting Scheduled Feb. 11 For Final Consideration

Recommendation that Birmingham continue as a village will be made to citizens at large by the village-city committee at a general meeting to be held Feb. 11 at 8 p. m. in the Community House, it was indicated today by H. T. Ellerby, chairman of the committee. The announcement followed a meeting of the committee held Friday night and the introduction of a resolution opposing a change.

No good reason for making the change has as yet been unearthed by the committee after weeks of investigation, Mr. Ellerby said. Members of the study group are interested in hearing from persons of the village any suggestions on the matter.

"Now is the time to receive suggestions," Mr. Ellerby said. "This committee is bent upon serving the public and we want to do as they wish. Although members have made a careful study of any possible advantages there are none so far discovered, that would merit the change."

Appropriation of $200 to pay expenses of a tax expert to report on taxation advantages was made by the village commission but committee members feel this expenditure will not be necessary, according to Mr. Ellerby.

VILLAGE TO VOTE ON 7 MAN BOARD

Doty Recommends Tabeling Of Commissioner's Proposal

Birmingham voters will decide whether they want a seven or a three man commission at the general election March 14, it was indicated today with the receipt of the petition for a seven man body signed by Gov. Fred W. Green and the recommendation of Village Attorney Frank L. Doty that only the seven man proposal should be voted upon.

Although the village commission had passed a resolution favoring a vote on a five man commission, Mr. Doty declared the seven man proposal, which was advocated by a petition from voters, took precedence over that of the commission. He advised commissioners merely to approve the seven man proposal at the election.

BIRMINGHAM G. O. P.'S WILL ATTEND BANQUET

50 Villagers To Be In Pontiac For Annual Lincoln Affair.

More than 50 Birmingham Republicans are planning to attend the thirty-eighth annual banquet of the Lincoln Republican club of Oakland County, which is to be held next Thursday night at the First Methodist Church, Pontiac.

Walter Y. Stanley, of Chester street, is chairman of the transportation committee for this event. Other officers who will attend from Birmingham are Mrs. Virginia Hewitt, township treasurer, vice president of the club; Mrs. Thomas Cobb, of north Woodward avenue, honorary vice president; and Seymour D. Adams and Charles Bingham, directors.

POLICEWOMAN NAMED HERE

The Birmingham Police department, is to have a policewoman on its personnel, it has been decided by Village Manager Harry Starr. Mrs. Carrie Stoddard, who for the than three months has acted as clerk and nurse of the department, will be sworn in as policewoman this week.

The appointment of a policewoman on the Birmingham force is the result of a letter from Sheriff Frank Schram to Police Chief James Anderson saying that Birmingham had now reached a size where it could afford to pay such an official.

Heretofore, Mrs. A. J. Jardine, 411 Ann street, has acted as policewoman in Birmingham, when one was needed, but she was paid by the county and is a county official. She will retain her county post and continue to perform county duties, but Mrs. Stoddard will take care of all Birmingham cases where a woman is needed.

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'Blue Law' Sunday Threatens Village

Kunsky Plans To Quit Birmingham As Petitions Against Amusements Circulate; Election To Settle Issue

Plans for work on the new Birmingham theater, Woodward avenue, south of Maple avenue, are definitely suspended today following the circulation of a petition here advocating a law against commercial amusements on Sunday.

John H. Kunsky, Detroit theater magnet, whose corporation had spent considerable money on the theater so far, threatened today in an interview with The Eccentric, to quit Birmingham in favor of another community where legislation against Sunday shows would not be an issue with which to contend.

Drive Starts

Steps to have voters of the village pass an ordinance prohibiting all commercial amusements on Sunday and virtually enforcing strict "blue laws" have been taken by Rev. R. M. Atkins, pastor of the First Methodist Church and Rev. Floyd Logee, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. They are aided in their drive, they say, by 100 persons from various churches here. The petition being circulated by them calls for a vote on the issue at the general elections, March 14.

Many see in the action the beginning of one of the most severe battles Birmingham has yet known. While no opposition to the proposed ballot has asserted itself today, it is expected organizations to combat the issue will be formed by citizens at once.

"We do not know when we will resume our construction activities in Birmingham," said Mr. Kunsky when asked for an explanation of why the ambitious plans of his corporation in Birmingham had, apparently, been abandoned after the expenditure of considerable money in preliminaries on the new theater.

Would Quit Village

"Frankly, we may decide not to erect a theater in Birmingham and transfer our activities to another section which would serve our purpose just as well," added Mr. Kunsky.

"We have suspended all work in Birmingham after receiving word of the petition that threatens to bring about 'blue Sunday' closing. No theater of the beauty and size that we plan can exist in Birmingham if it must close on Sundays. We have received many assurances that the majority of Birmingham residents want us to erect a Kunsky theater in the village and that they do not approve Sunday closing of theaters. However, we can not afford to take a chance and our building operations are suspended."

Ordinance Not Complete

Attorneys today have not finished the drafting of the proposed ordinance but legal advice states specifically the issue will have to be voted upon.

Withdrawing of the Kunsky interests from Birmingham would mean the loss of thousands of dollars to the village as well as the half million dollars for the theater itself, it has been pointed out.

The corporation planned one of the finest theaters in the state which would surpass in beauty anything in Oakland County.

VILLAGE PLANS FIRST MEETING

Affairs Of Government To Be Discussed By Bloomfield Hills Officials.

First definite governmental action of the newly incorporated village of Bloomfield Hills will be taken Monday night when plans for the future of the village are to be made by the commissioners at their meeting in the offices at the Barbour building, Long Lake road and Woodward avenue.

Several matters were brought to the attention of the commissioners by Luther D. Allen, president, when officials were sworn into office Friday night.

Many village officials, including a chief of police and a treasurer will be appointed at the first meeting, it is planned. A definite policy of government also will be discussed at that time, it was announced by Mr. Allen.

The meetings will be held on the first Monday of every month.

AUDITORS COMPLETE WORK FOR VILLAGE

Annual report of auditors on the condition of village books is being considered this week by village commissioners following its receipt at the commission meeting Monday night.

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ASSESSMENT ROLL ORDERED PREPARED

Bates Street Paving Project Is Given The Approval Of Officials

Village Assessor Robert McClellan, today is making a special assessment roll for property owners to be benefited by the paving of Bates street from Lincoln avenue to Brown street, following action on the proposal taken by village commissioners.

Cost of the work will reach $18,380, according to figures submitted to the commission. This is 70 percent of the total cost and residents have agreed to this rate.

The pavement is to be 33 feet wide and of concrete, it is planned.

I. O. O. F. MASQUERADE DANCE
DEWEY'S OAK AND TUNGSTERS
SATURDAY, FEB. 19, 1927, 9 P. M.
I. O. O. F. HALL, 119 N. WOODWARD adv.42